First Preliminary Amendment

I hereby certify that this paper (along with any paper referred to as being attached or enclosed) is being transmitted via the Office electronic filling system in accordance with § 1.6(a)(4).

Dated: February 16, 2009

Dated: February 16, 2009

Electronic Signature for Jennifer K. Stollenwerk: /Jennifer K. Stollenwerk/

Docket No.: 65937-0045 (PATENT)

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In re Patent Application of:

Joseph L. Mark

Application No.: 10/786,727

Confirmation No.: 2729

Filed: February 25, 2004

Art Unit: 3736

For: FLUID CONNECTOR AND BIOPSY SYSTEM

INCLUDING SAME

Examiner: J. G. Hoekstra

AMENDMENT IN RESPONSE TO NON-FINAL OFFICE ACTION

MS Amendment Commissioner for Patents P.O. Box 1450 Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

Dear Sir:

INTRODUCTORY COMMENTS

In response to the Office Action dated December 15, 2008, please amend the aboveidentified U.S. patent application as follows:

Amendments to the Claims are reflected in the listing of claims which begins on page 2 of this paper.

Remarks/Arguments begin on page 7 of this paper.